The Lions' Pride

TLP 2019 THE LIONS' PRIDE MEDIA GROUP

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The Lions' Pride Highlights of 2018

By John Hall & Ali Masso
Editor-In-Chief & Copy Editor/Lifestyle Editor

2018 was a year of immense change within and around the Saint Leo Community. The addition of new members within the administration, service events around campus and projects helmed by members of faculty--The Lions' Pride sought to cover it all. Although we were not able to cover every achievement here is a list of our highlights from 2018.

TLP Rebranding

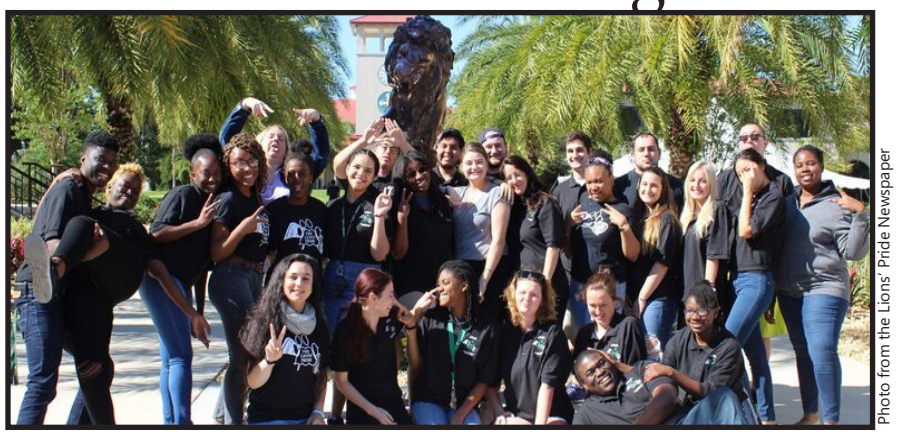


Photo from the Lions' Pride Newspaper

The Lions' Pride Newspaper underwent a name change. As of Aug. 24, 2018, The Lions' Pride Newspaper has been changed to The Lions' Pride Media Group. The name change reflects the change in operation of the organization and sought to encompass all of the platforms which it represents.

Over the past three years numerous platforms have been engaged to stay relevant within a growing global presence. Live streaming special events like the Saint Leo Community polled Peoples' Choice Awards, and the addition of the movie review Youtube channel and Snapchat platforms are some of the new ways TLP engages with the community on and off campus. The utilization of the platform Lions' Share also fostered community engagement, that the physical newspaper may not reach.

Athletics Update

500
WINS
RICK O'DETTE
500 - 2/18/18 vs West Alabama
494 - 5/18/17 vs Southern Indiana
400 - 4/5/14 vs Wisconsin-Parkside
300 - 4/2/10 vs Northern Kentucky
250 - 4/26/08 vs SIU-Edwardsville
200 - 4/17/07 vs Lewis
100 - 3/20/05 at Bellarmine
1 - 2/17/01 at Montevallo
@SAINTLEOLIONS @SAINTLEOBASE

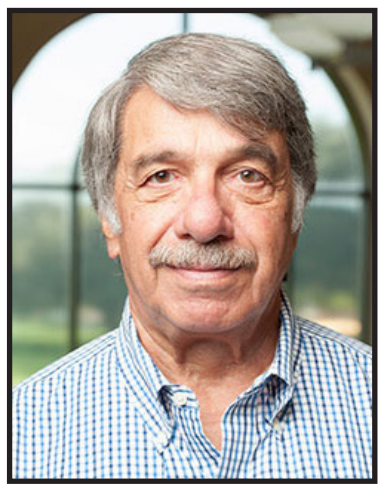
Photo from @saintleobase

Head coach of the baseball program, Rick O'Dette, recorded his 500th career victory Feb. 18 at home against West Alabama. This victory happened 17 years and one day since his first victory as a head coach. This victory was due to eight unanswered runs to come from behind to win the game 9-6 to clinch the series win as well.

Starting spring 2018, Saint Leo introduced their Beach Volleyball program. The announcement of the Lions' 20th intercollegiate sport came in May. Saint Leo joined Eckerd College, University of Tampa and Florida Southern College as the only schools in the Sunshine State Conference to compete in 2018.

Photo by: Christopher Daniello

Honoring Members of the Community



2018 provided many opportunities for TLP to show its appreciation to those members of the community that left us. The filling and the substantive life lived by Dr. Douglas Astolfi was celebrated by the Saint Leo community Tuesday, Sept. 18. Scores of attendees a part of the Saint Leo Community including members of the faculty, staff and students past and present filled the SCC Boardrooms.

Additionally, in May 2018, after nearly two decades of living and working within the Saint Leo University Community, Dr. Edward Dadez retired from his position as Vice President for Student Affairs and Campus Operations. Having spent decades living and interacting with students on numerous campuses, Dadez reflected on his time within the Saint Leo Community.

Photo by Nicholas Fox , Graphics: Christian Silva

Politics

Photos by Wikimedia Commons

Since President Trump has been in office he has made many changes to immigration laws and policies. He had issued travel bans on several Muslim countries, made changes to the temporary protected status (TPS) and ended the DACA program. Now, with his many reforms, not only are many immigrants affected, but also American universities are facing the problem of losing money as international students are seeking other countries for their education.

The president also came under immense scrutiny for his handling of the Puerto Rico crisis as he tossed paper towels to the residents upon visiting the hurricane stricken island.

Lions' Pride 2018 Highlights Continued on Pages 4&5

Editorial

Top 10 Political Moments of 2018

By Travis Farmer
Editorials Editor

2018 was a monsterous year, especially in a political sense. Enough happened in American politics to published several hundred textbooks on the various controversies, tragedies, and debates. 2018 would be a monumental year normally, but throw in a midterm election and possibly insane President, and you have a recipe for a year to remember in political history textbooks for years to come.

10. White House's High Turnover Rate

2018 also saw many of Trump's inner cabinet members leaving the White House, either being fired, resigning or resigning by force. Most notably, John Kelly, the chief of staff, announced his departure and Omarosa Newman, the Director of Communications for the office of Public Liaison resigned in January. Rex Tillerson was fired as the Secretary of State, General Jim Mattis announced his retirement as Defense Secretary and Jeff Sessions was fired as Attorney General. While these are not the only important dismissals and resignations, it is a good show that there is chaos in the White House. Despite all bias and outsider thoughts, an incredibly high turnover rate in any organization is an easy way to see very high turmoil within the organization.

9. Wildfires Spark Debate

During the summer and November of 2018, California experienced a horrible wave of wildfires across their forests. During the year, a grand total of 8,257 fires broke out burning a total of 1.8 million acres across California and costing more than 3.5 billion dollars in damage. Also, unfortunately as of this time of writing 98 civilians and six firefighters were killed, with some still missing. During the November fires, the Camp Fire broke out which included 86 of those deaths and is now known as California's deadliest and most destructive fires to ever happen.

These fires opened a whole new debate about the effect and existence of climate change in America, and sparked some brand-new uninformed comments from President Trump. Trump stated that it is California's fault for the fires that tore across their state, and threatened to hold their federal disaster funding, despite the literal disaster that killed so many people. However, this seems to be the hill Trump is choosing to die on, as fire scientists say it is climate change causing the fires, not forest management, yet Trump continues to blame California's liberal leadership.

8. Parkland Tragedy Spurs Youth

Unfortunately, on Valentine's Day 2018 a shooter opened fire in Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida killing 17 students and faculty. While this tragic event quickly led to the arrest of Nikolas Cruz, the event left a lasting scar on the country as the students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas took to social media to express their displeasure with the government for not preventing the tragedy that changed their lives.

Survivors Emma González and David Hogg gained national notoriety for their public speaking for gun control and against the legality of military style rifles in Florida and the country. These two also eventually helped form Never Again MSD, a student-led political action committee devoted to preventing gun violence.

7. Students March For Their Lives

Following the Parkland shooting, students across the entire nation took to the streets to protest gun violence in the United States. The main march in Washington D.C. included an estimated 800,000 people all protesting gun violence. Besides Washington, over 800 more cities nationwide participated in their own marches with even more worldwide participating. The closest approximation for the total number of attending in America was 1.2 million, with the total global number unknown.

Besides the march, on the one-month anniversary of the tragedy students across the nation participated in a school walkout for 17 minutes, one for each person killed in Parkland. An estimated 3,000 schools and one million students participated, and additional controversy was generated when some high schools suspended and punished students who walked out.

6. Stormy Daniels v. Donald Trump

In perhaps the most ridiculous but still concerning story of 2018, the Wall Street Journal published that there was existence of a nondisclosure agreement between pornstar Stormy Daniels and Donald Trump. After some legal maneuvering, Stormy Daniels accused Trump of having an affair with her and paying her $130,000 to keep quiet about it. Despite Daniels losing the lawsuit to be released from the nondisclosure agreement, but then Michael Cohen, Donald Trump's lawyer was arrested through the Mueller Investigation. Once he was, he stated under oath that he paid Daniels at the direction of Donald Trump.

5. Trump Seperates Immigrant Families At The Border / Immigrant Caravan

It just wouldn't be politics without some classic humaniterarian issues and fearmongering from the people in power, would it?

2018 saw an increase in immigration across the border, both illegal and legal. However, it also saw an increase in immigrant children being ripped away from their parents and placed into literal internment camps while they awaited trial or deportation.

Not only this, but in the later half of the year, a large caravan of immigrants came towards America from our neighbors to the south. These were not illegal immigrants, but rather people seeking legal asylum from their own violent countries. But that didn't stop members of the GOP insisting that these were lawbreakers coming to ignore our immigration laws and instead jumping the walls. This was one of the most talked about issues of November and December as they kept closing, and then the story just mysteriously disappeared as they made it to America and... nothing happened.

4. The Blue Wave Contains Minorities, Women and LGBT

Many people will say that midterm elections are more important than the presidential election, and with that came the 2018 midterms with record breaking results and turnout. These midterms were supposed to be when democrats took back the house and senate, and eventually impeached the president. However, the blue wave was bit like a blue splash, with democrats taking back the house but not the senate. However, despite this, Democrats undoubetly won an uphill battle and turned the house in their favor.

Also, with the midterm election, came many firsts. Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez, a minority woman, became the ever female of the House, at only age 29. Sharice Davids and Deb Haaland from Kansas and New Mexico, both became the first Native American women elected to congress. Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaid both became the first female muslim members of the house. Jared Polis also became the first openly gay governor in the history of the nation. Despite your opinions of who won the midterms, it is undoubtable to say that the midterm was a win for diversity and representation in politics.

3. Massive Strides Made between North and South Korea

2018 saw a monumental occurance when peace talks actually began between North and South Korea. The leaders of the two countries across crossed each other country lines at the Demilitarized Zone and shook hands.

However, this massive and hopeful news obviously would not come without some news from our own local embarassment: The President. Naturally, Trump took credit for the entire peace talks between the two Koreas, and even said he and Kim Jong-Un "fell in love" over "beautiful letters" at a truly bizarre campaign rally.

2.Indictments, Convictions, and Lies: The Mueller Investigation

While it did not only take place in 2018, the Special Counsel Investigation by Robert Mueller continued in 2018, and saw several immense updates during the course of the year. A year big enough to warrant its own day by day timeline, 2018 saw Michael Cohen being sentenced to prison for making false statements, Paul Manafort pleading guilty and being found guilty of ten different charges, and Rick Gates pleaded guilty to two conspiracy charges.

Editorial

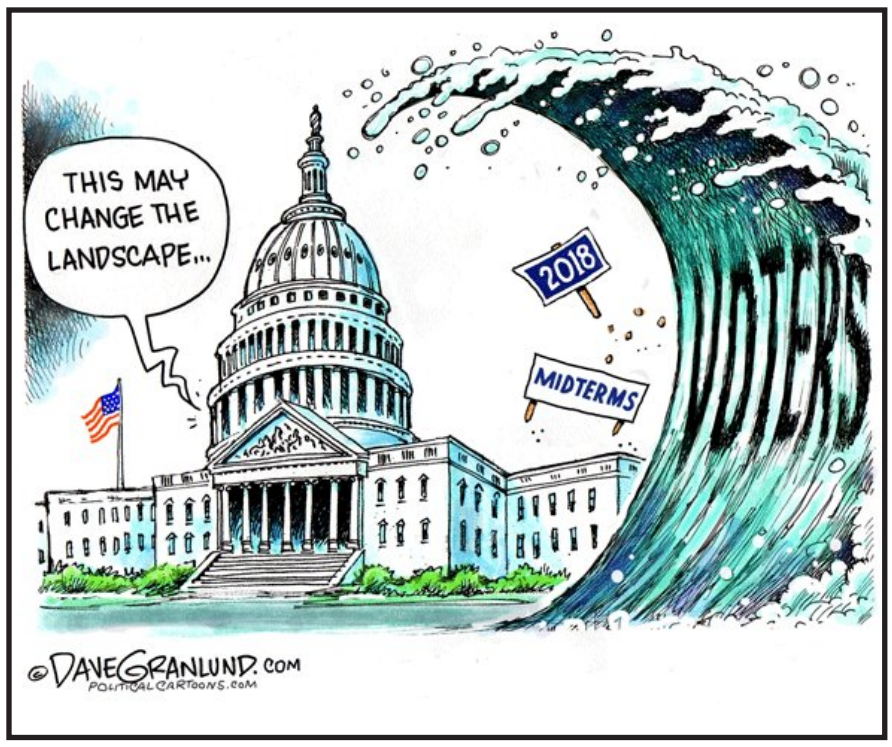
Not only these, but also charges against twenty-six Russian nationals were brought by Mueller as well as charges against three Russian organizations. Also, the Mueller Investigation so far has cost twenty-five million dollars, but in uncovering tax fraud has brought in almost forty-eight million dollars, meaning that not only has it been uncovering criminals but also a smart investment too.

However, with the successful investigation going underway, President Trump also has spoken out against the investigation many times. Most famously when he simply tweeted "WITCH HUNT" and nothing else at eight in the morning. Unfortunately for the Salem Witches, it seems Trump has forgotten them by saying the Mueller investigation is the greatest witch hunt in history.

1. Brett Kavanaugh Gets Appointed Despite Everything

And of course, the most important event in 2018 was the entire circus revolving around Brett Kavanaugh. After the retirement of Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, Donald Trump appointed Washington DC attorney Brett Kavanaugh to replace his seat to little fanfare. However, this all changed when multiple sexual assault allegations came out against Kavanaugh, with the most famous and detailed account coming from Dr. Christine Ford. Ford alleged that Kavanaugh forcefully groped her at a party when they were in high school and following this even more women came out speaking about Kavanaugh's anti-woman behavior.

This quickly turned into the political standoff of the century, with GOP members speaking in support of Kavanaugh and Democrat's speaking against Kavanaugh. Screaming, crying and yelling all happened during the appointment hearings, and all came from Kavanaugh. Despite all the evidence and fanfare however, Ford and Kavanaugh eventually faced off in the senate chambers both offering up testimonies, and the committee eventually agreed to pass Kavanaugh along. This is truly one of the most important things to happen in 2018 politics, as it will have lasting effects for literally the rest of Kavanaugh's years as a Supreme Court justice, and also shows the countries growing ideals about the #MeToo movement and sexual assault in America.



Photos by Wikimedia Commons

Illustration by Christian Silva

Campus News

The Lions' Pride Highlights of 2018 Cont'd

Administrative Updates

Photos by: Saint Leo University

For the first time in the history of the University, Saint Leo got its first Provost in Dr. Jeffrey Senese. By the end of the Spring Semester of 2018, then University president Dr. William Lennox announced that he would be leaving and Dr. Senese would serve as interim president. The beginning of Fall 2018 saw Dr. Senese fully assuming the role of University President, charting the course for the next five years and beyond.

New Centers were also opened during the 2018 year, including the Jacksonville, Florida Center.

Technology Changes

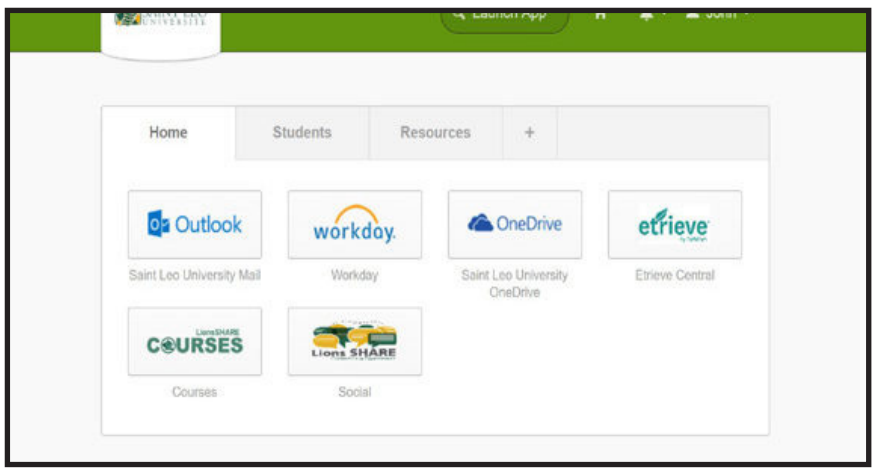


Photo by: John Hall

As the semesters go by technology has become an integral part of growing the Saint Leo Community.

Tech changes in the Community is an ongoing series that allows the students, faculty and staff to get an understanding of the importance of each new piece of software utilized. So far TLP has covered LionsShare, Okta and Brightspace/D2L.

With the addition of other programs like Handshake, AdAstra, Workday and Engageleo, you can be sure that this series will continue on.

In future editions a pool of responses will be garnered from staff, faculty and opinions on what is the most difficult or unfriendly piece of technology they have

Health Awareness

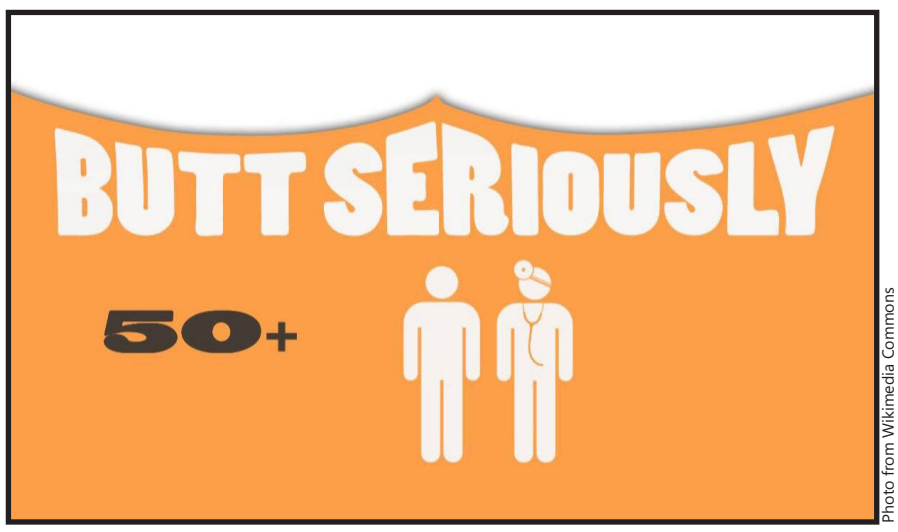


Photo from Wikimedia Commons

Throughout the semester numerous articles related to health were posted in TLP. As each month has become synonomous with Cancer Awareness, several publications were released in print and online. These cancer articles included but were not limited to Colon, Kidney, Testicular, Gall Bladder and Bile Duct and Cervical Cancers.

Articles regarding the growing dangers of E-Cigarettes were also posted and written with students in mind as the devices were being sold to minors.

As TLP looks ahead to 2019, this series will continue in an effort to keep The Saint Leo community wise and healthy.

Tragic Losses

Photo from: The Obama Foundation

There was tremendous loss experienced throughout the country as Senator and War Veteran/P.O.W John McCain succombed to his battle with brain cancer. Throughout his tenure, he supported his Republican counterparts in most of their endeavors, however refused to support blindly any action that would be harmful to the American people. As he saw death drawing near, McCain made several of his final wills known one of which was to be eulogized by both former presidents Barack Obama and George W. Bush.

Tragedy also struck closer to home as a school in South Florida, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School was shaken as one of their own entered the school on Feb. 18, killing 17 persons and wounding another 17 of the school's members.

Photo fromWikimedia Commons

Photo y: John Hall

Campus News

Military Recognition

Photo provided by: Office Military Services

The Student Veterans from Saint Leo University attended a national annual conference early in January; Student Veterans of America National Convention 2018 (NatCon) was held from Jan. 4 to Jan. 6 in San Antonio, Texas. On Friday, Nov. 11, 2018, the Saint Leo community gathered at the lion statue between Kirk Hall and The School of Business, in recognition for Veteran's Day of those that fought and died in the past.

Photos by John Hall

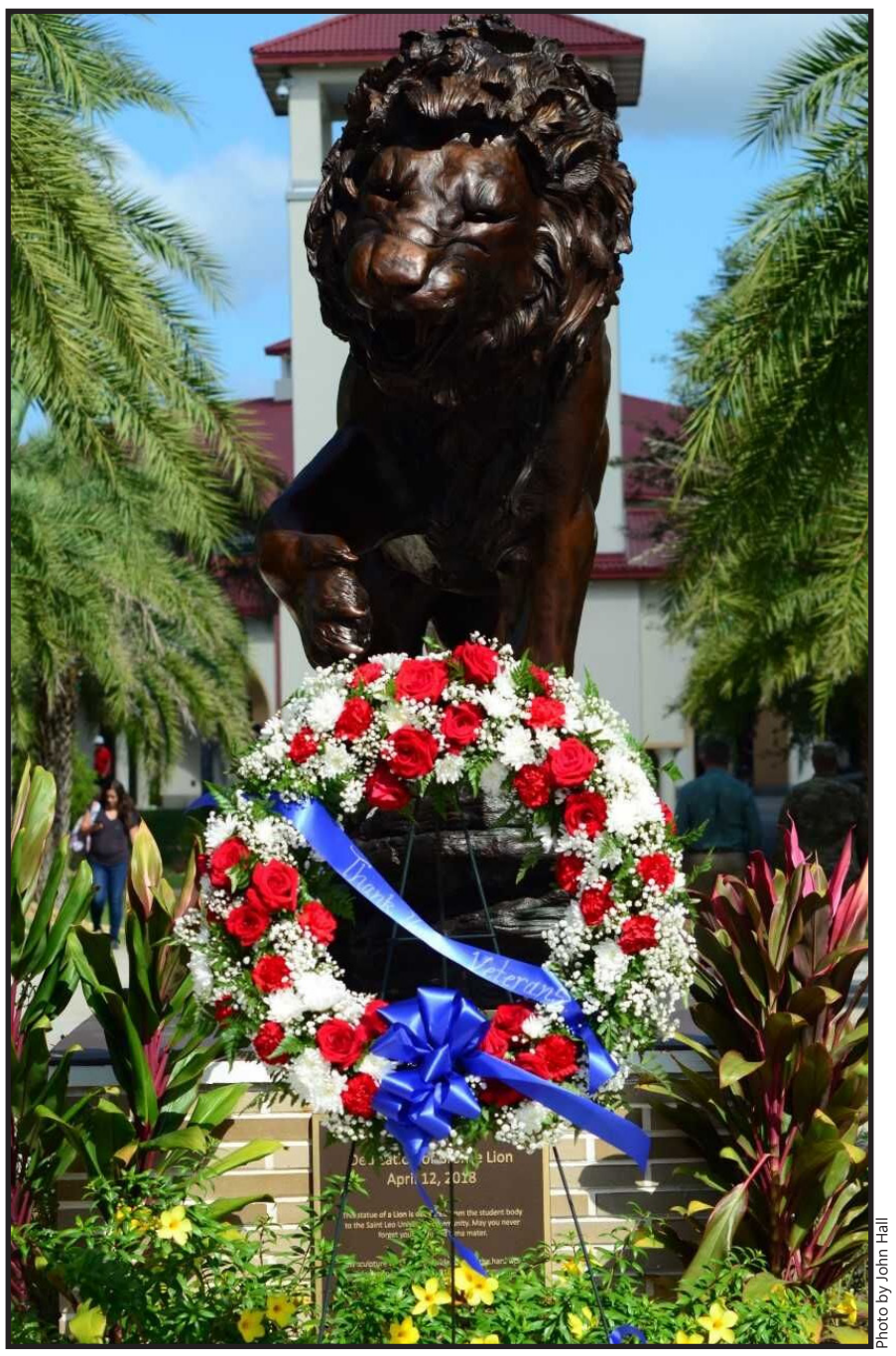


Photo by John Hall

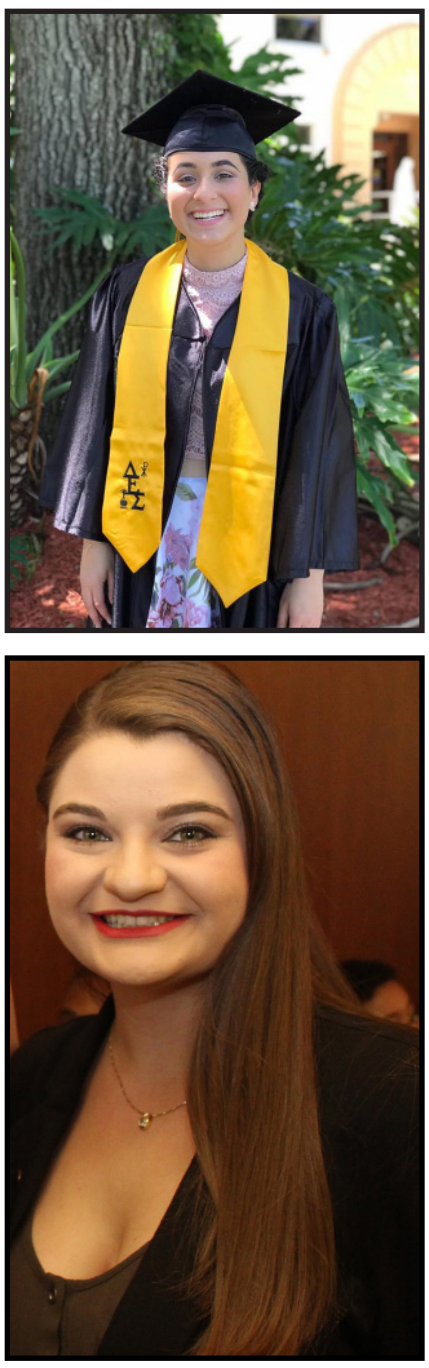
Graduates Accomplishments

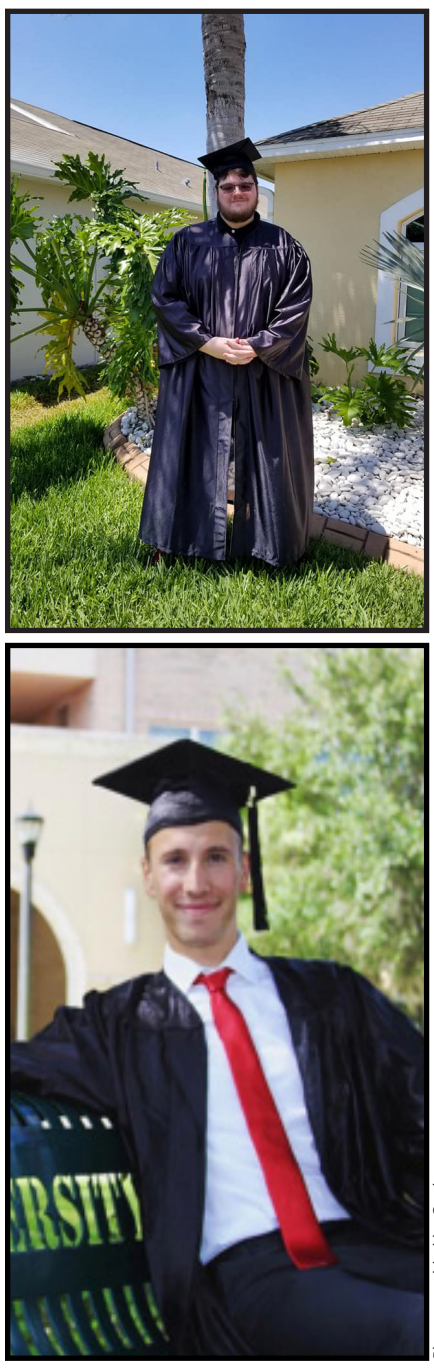
Photo from TEDX

While many of Saint Leo University graduates go on to accomplish great things 2018 allowed the community to see just how far their reach allowed them. Spring 2017 graduate Ammar Mohrat was selected to talk with 12 other speakers for TEDxOrlando; his speech was held at Full Saint in Orlando on Oct 27. Since then Ammar was accepted to John Hopkins University.

Additionally, other graduates were recognized such as former Editor-in-Chief Cassidy Whitaker and Sports Writer Niclas Bez who both gave the commencement speeches for the graduations of both undergrad and graduate ceremonies respectively.

In a new and ongoing series, TLP followed some of its alumni as they searched for jobs. Former Campus News Editor Emily Kochanski,Staff Writer Brian Cerosky and Multimedia Manager Ilouisa Salazar were showcased as they told their stories from graduation to landing the perfect job after graduation.





Photos provided by Graduates

Arts & Entertainment

Top 10 A&E Stories of 2018

By Bernard Ramos
and Madison Whatley
Advertising Manager
and Arts and Entertainment Editor

January

"Heart Eyes for Camila"
by Keirra Gordon

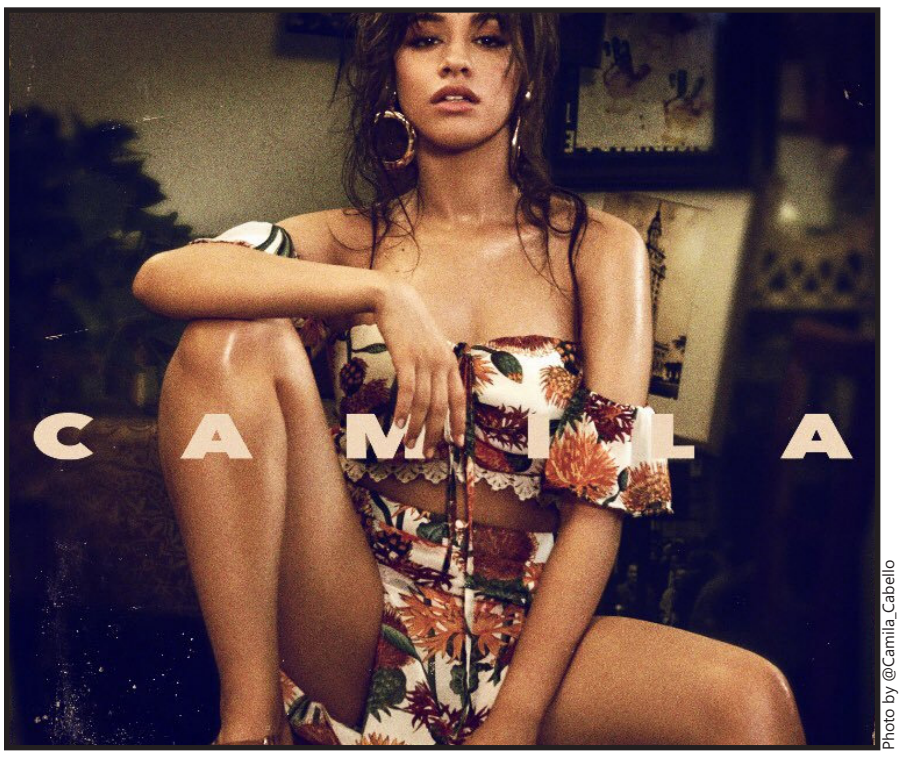


Photo by @Camila_Cabello

In a December interview with Billboard, Camila Cabello referred to 2018 as the best year of her life. Our writer, Keirra Gordon, gave a great review of Cabello's self-titled album "Camila," her first solo album after departing from girl group Fifth Harmony, when it initially came out last January. It debuted at No.1 on the Billboard 200 and has since gone Platinum. Cabello's song, "Havana," is Spotify's most-played song by a solo female artist.

Photo by @Netflix_CA

The original "Queer Eye" show ran from 2003 to 2007 to popular ratings. When a reboot was announced in 2017, fans of the original were unsure. We covered the reboot's release to Netflix in early 2018 by focusing on the new message of the show, "More Than Just a Makeover," which promotes self-confidence. The show has since become one of the most successful television series not just on a streaming platform but overall. "The New York Times" named it the 5th Best New Television Show of 2018.

February

"'Queer Eye' Is Back with a New Purpose"
by Madison Whatley

"Paws Firmly Planted: 'Black Panther" Review"
by John Hall

Photo by @MarvelStudios

"Black Panther" is the most successful Marvel movie in the U.S. in the studio's cinematic history as well as 2018's highest-grossing film in the U.S. by any studio. The film differs from other films successful in the U.S. because the cast is mainly comprised of people of color and it takes place in Africa. Its success was unprecedented and a huge win for

March

"Love Is 'Love, Simon'" by Travis Farmer

"Snoop Dogg: Constantly Evolving"
by Keirra Gordon

Photo by @lovesimonmovie

"Love, Simon" is the first studio movie focused on a gay teen romance, marking a new era for teen movies. It also became one of the highest-grossing teen romance films of all time.

Arts & Entertainment

April

"The Sound of Silence: 'A Quiet Place' Review"
by Emily Kochanski

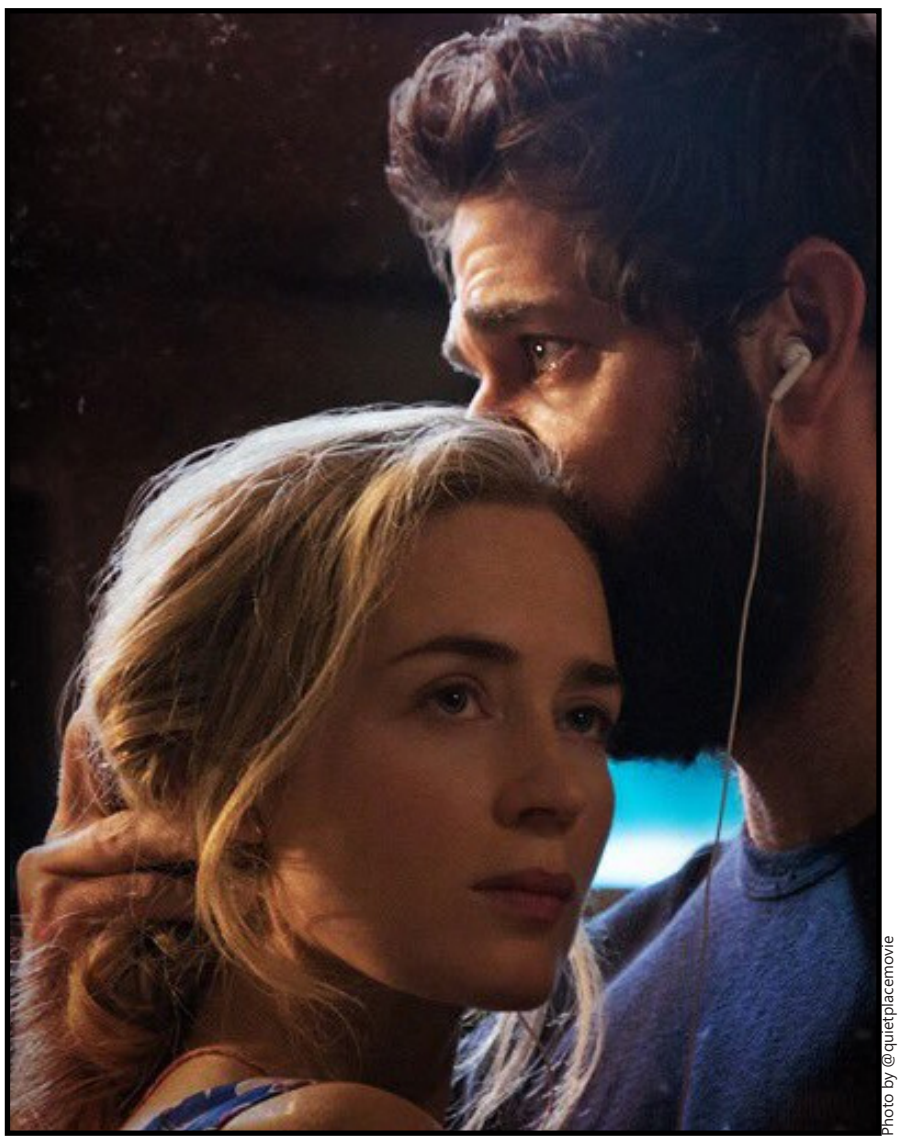


Photo by @quietplacemovie

The first official trailer for "A Quiet Place" starring John Krasinski and Emily Blunt premiered during the Super Bowl. It went on to have the second best domestic debut of any film in 2018. It was beat out for the top opening by "Black Panther."

September

"Dierks Bentley 'Mountain High' Tour Reaches Tampa Bay"
by Fatima Abu-Rumman

Photo by @DierksBentley

Our writer, Fatima Abu-Rumman, attended and reviewed Dierks Bentley's concert when his Mountain High Tour made its stop in Tampa. His tour concluded in October to a sold-out show in Los Angeles.

October

"The Horrors of Universal Studios: HHN28 Review"
by Bernard Ramos

Photo by @HorrorNights

Our writer, Bernard Ramos, reviewed Halloween Horror Nights, a yearly event put on by Universal Studios from September to early November, for the 2018 holiday season. Overall, he felt the experience was good but the haunted houses left something to be desired. Pictured above is a character named Turkey Lurkey, a Thanksgiving turkey back for revenge.

November

"People's Choice Awards 2018 Predictions"
by Bernard Ramos, Madison Whatley, and Kristin Vitagliano

Photo by @peopleschoice

Nicki Minaj and Tyga, who performed three songs, were the main performers of the night at the People's Choice Awards 2018 alongside Rita Ora and John Legend, who each performed one song. We predicted the winners of the night and provided commentary on the nominees followed by a livestream of the true results of the award show.

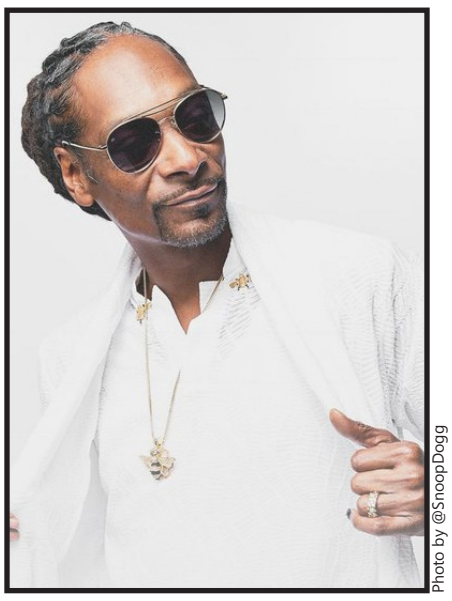


Photo by @SnoopDogg

This year, we chose to highlight Snoop Dogg and his many talent acheivements. In 2018, he released a new album, received a Hollywood Walk of Fame star and released a series on Netfilx called "Coach Snoop" among other accomplishments.

Sports

Top Sports Moments of 2018

By TLP Sports Writers

#16 Seed Beats the #1 Seed for the First Time Ever in March Madness After Going 0-135 Previously

Every year in the Big Dance since 1985, four matchups have taken place in the opening round of the tournament between the top seeded number one team and the bottom seeded No. 16 team, in each of the four regions. In total, 135 games have occurred between the best and the worst teams in the first round, and despite all of the madness that takes place every year in this famous March tournament, no team ranked 16th has ever managed to topple the No. 1 seed. In 2018, the unknown University of Maryland, Baltimore County Retrievers upset the University of Virginia Cavaliers, the No. 1 ranked team in the entire tournament standings. With a devastating final score of 74-54, the contest between these two teams will certainly put both schools down in history for opposite reasons.

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Eagles Winning their First Super Bowl

February 4th, 2018, will be a night that is remembered and reminisced by every Philadelphia Eagles fan for years to come. Not only did the Eagles win their first Super Bowl in franchise history, but they also did it without their starting quarterback. Carson Wentz suffered a season ending injury and backup quarterback Nick Foles took the reigns in stride, finishing out the season by leading the team too, and winning the biggest game of the year. To make the win even more impressive, the Eagles were facing the legendary duo of Tom Brady and Bill Belichick, who are regarded as the best dynasty in NFL history. The Eagles fought through the playoffs as the underdogs, and were never favored to win against the Patriots.

The Golden Knights Historic Season

The Vegas Golden Knights are an expansion team in the National Hockey League that came into existence for the 2017-2018 season that turned into a movie script. Historically speaking, expansion teams do not fare well during their inaugural season, but there are always exceptions to the rules, it seems. The Knights finished their first season with a record of 51-24-7 (wins/losses/overtime losses). The team broke many records for inaugural season teams, as well as becoming the first team to win their division in the teams first season. The Knights swept the first round of the playoffs, becoming the first team of their nature to do so and later won their divisional round to advance to the Western Conference finals. There they thrashed the Winnipeg Jets in five games to secure the Western Conference title, and the opportunity to play for the Stanley Cup. Unfortunately, this story didn't have the fairy tale ending one would find in a movie, and the Knights were beaten in five games by the Washington Capitals. Still though, for their inaugural season making it to the Stanley Cup Finals is pretty decent.

Lebron James signs with The Los Angeles Lakers

The biggest offseason decision once again in the NBA is where LeBron James moved to. James is still considered by many as the best player in the game. Some even calling him the best player to ever play, better than Michael Jordan. Whenever James moves, the entire world freezes waiting for his decision. However, this time was a little different as everyone thought he was going to the Lakers. Reports of his family moving to their LA house and attending school spread and it was easy to see that the Lakers was the easy decision for him. Although many saw this move coming it is still a surprise for him to sign. After Oklahoma City Thunder superstar Paul George decided to stay put and Kawhi Leonard being traded to the Raptors it was brave of James to go to this team. This team is talented but very young and has more upside than current power. Even with James many still don't see them beating the Warriors to get into the NBA Finals. James leads the Team in minutes with 34 and points with 27. He also brings in eight boards and seven assists per game as

well. Currently James is hurt, and the Lakers are noticeably suffering with his absence. Only time will tell if this move helps or hurts his legacy.

The Warriors win back-to-back NBA finals

After blowing a 3-1 game lead in spectacular fashion in the 2016 NBA Finals to Lebron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers, the Golden State Warriors (after adding superstar Kevin Durant to the roster) bounced back to win consecutive championships in 2017 and 2018. Despite the King and company's best efforts, the Cavs were only able to top the Warriors a single time in the last four years of Finals competition, with the Dubs going an impressive 8-1 against them. With their sweep of Cleveland in 2018, they became just the seventh NBA team to ever win back-to-back titles in a row. Kevin Durant won the Finals MVP award in both of these last two matchups.

Red Sox Win World Series

The Boston Red Sox won their ninth title last season and sparked the notion that they might be the team of the century. Simply saying that the Red Sox won the World Series isn't enough. This title, their fourth since 2004, was basically theirs midway through the regular season. The Red Sox began their season by blowing a game in the eighth inning sending fans into a frenzy. However, the fans were rewarded with a season containing 119 wins, the most wins in a single season since the 2001 Mariners team with 120 wins and countless highlight reel plays. Boston's road in the playoffs seemed tough, as they had to face a 100 win New York Yankees team, and the defending champion Houston Astro team. The Red Sox cruised right past them to the World Series, and right past the Los Angeles Dodgers to the title. The Red Sox were managed by a rookie skipper by the name of Alex Cora, who became only the fifth manager in Major League Baseball history to win a World Series as a first year manager, and the first since 2001, when Arizona Diamondback manager Bob Brenly had the accomplishment.

The Minnesota Miracle

Last season saw then underdog Minnesota Vikings emerge and post an incredible 13-3 record. This team was led by Case Keenum and their top ranked defense. They secured the first round bye and played the visiting high-powered New Orleans Saints. The game ended with the Vikings winning 29-24. However, this was no ordinary ending as the Vikings capped off the win with what is now known as the Miracle in Minnesota. Keenum passed to the right to Stefon Diggs who went up in the air to catch the ball. Saints safety Marcus Williams dove at Diggs feet and missed the tackle as Diggs took it to the house to ice the game. Unfortunately, the magic ended the next week as the Vikings got crushed by the Philadelphia Eagles 38-7. The Vikings this season ended with a 8-7-1 record making for a mediocre year.

Photos by Wikimedia Commons